

## HOUSE RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_

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Introduced by: Scholer

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A HOUSE RESOLUTION honoring West Lafayette Jr./Sr. High School educators Linda C. Anderson, Janice Wheeler-Cowen, Stephen L. Florence, Jane M. Helton, and Marshall Overley for being recipients of the 2000 Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching, as well as, the West Lafayette Community School Corporation for being identified as one of the "100 Best School Districts in the United States.

*Whereas, the West Lafayette Community School Corporation was included in the top 100 school districts in the country by "Offspring," a new parenting publication;*

*Whereas, Linda C. Anderson, a Science/Biology educator, earned her bachelor's degree from Inter American University in Puerto Rico and her master's from Purdue University. She is a member of the Hoosier Association of Science Teachers, the Indiana and National Association of Biology Teachers, and the National Science Teachers Association;*

*Whereas, Ms. Anderson diligently creates new learning*



*environments for those students who are talented and gifted, but more importantly, leads those students who are often not successful or motivated in the classroom to do their very best;*

*Whereas, Ms. Anderson's involvement with the students goes beyond the classroom. She sponsors a wide variety of activities to increase student awareness of their environment and, above all, she instills a sense of accomplishment in her students;*

*Whereas, Janice Wheeler-Cowen, a Spanish Educator, earned a bachelor's and master's degree and spent her junior year studying abroad. She attended Earlham College, spent her junior year at the Universidad Javeriana in Bogota, Colombia, and was also a student at Indiana University, Purdue University, Universidad de Salamanca in Spain, Michigan State University, and the University of Wisconsin. She is a member of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, Indiana Foreign Language Teachers, and the American Council the Teaching of Foreign Languages;*

*Whereas, Ms. Wheeler-Cowen is a dynamic foreign language instructor who is able to make students comfortable speaking the language;*

*Whereas, Ms. Wheeler-Cowen maintains a high level of expectations for her students even for her beginning classes. Students are expected to use the language as they interact with Ms. Wheeler-Cowen and the other students;*

*Whereas, Stephen L. Florence, a Computer Science-Technology Education instructor received his bachelor's from Ball state and his master's from Indiana State University. He is a member of the International Education Association, the Indiana State Wrestling Coaches Association, and serves as an at-large member of the Executive Committee of Technology Educators of Indiana;*

*Whereas, Mr. Florence works well with a variety of student learning styles and takes time out of his schedule to help all of his students;*



*Whereas, Mr. Florence maintains a high level of involvement in the school and takes part in many educational experiences and is a positive role model for his students by encouraging them to strive toward their goals;*

*Whereas, Jane M. Helton received a bachelor's degree from the University of Evansville, and a master's degree from Indiana University. She is a member of the National Education Association, the Indiana State Teachers Association, West Lafayette Education Association, and the National Council of Teachers of English;*

*Whereas, Ms. Helton loves to teach and work with young people so that they will learn to appreciate literature and improve their writing skills. Many present and former students credit Ms. Helton for being the English teacher who truly taught them to read carefully, think critically, and write clearly;*

*Whereas, as a result of Ms. Helton's teaching, students develop outstanding communication skills that help them as they work toward a degree or enter the workforce;*

*Whereas, Marshall Overlay earned his bachelor's from Wright State University and his master's degree from Purdue University. Being an instructor of Biology, he is a member of the HASTI, the NSTA, IFCA, and has given presentations to each. He is also involved in the PSF Grant Selection Committee and Parents with Teens Sunday School class.*

*Whereas, Mr. Overlay has created a student-centered classroom that helps meet the unique needs of multi-ability level students;*

*Whereas, Mr. Overlay has a strong commitment to motivate young people to discover that science and learning can be interesting, challenging and fun, and*

*Whereas, all of the afore mentioned instructors have been diligent in educating the children of the community and are bright, shining stars in their profession. They are a testimony to the fine educational standards of the school district and have*



*displayed the kind of attributes which merit the award; Now, therefore,*

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the  
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives congratulates the instructors, as well as the school district, for its fine service to the people of the community, appreciating the extra effort required to make the difference as a mentor to students and other faculty members.

SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the Indiana House of Representatives is directed to transmit copies of this resolution to Linda C. Anderson, Janice Wheeler-Cowen, Stephen L. Florence, Jane M. Helton, Marshall Overley, and the Superintendent of the West Lafayette Community School Corporation.

